



**bcuc**  
British Columbia  
Utilities Commission

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### **INFORMATION RELEASE – BCUC closes week of community outreach to encourage public participation**

Vancouver – Last week, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) conducted community outreach sessions in Kelowna, Osoyoos and Castlegar to encourage residential electricity ratepayers to participate in upcoming hearings into FortisBC's rate design.

The BCUC periodically reviews electricity prices to ensure that utility costs are fairly allocated among customers. In the rate design process, customers are typically segmented into residential, commercial, and industrial rate classes. We review the allocation of the utility's costs across each rate class and in doing so we balance the various goals and impacts of the rate design with the needs of the utility and the interest of ratepayers.

The community outreach sessions informed customers how to participate in the BCUC's review of FortisBC's upcoming rate design application, expected to be filed in November 2017. Immediately following the information sessions, FortisBC held workshops on their rate design options. The information sessions and workshops were open to all members of the public. The BCUC's presentation slides are attached for reference.

For more information on how to participate in the BCUC's review of FortisBC's rate design application, please review the attached slides; visit our website at the following link: <http://www.bcuc.com/RegisterIndex.aspx>; or, contact us directly by email at [commission.secretary@bcuc.com](mailto:commission.secretary@bcuc.com) or telephone at 1-800-663-1385.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**Public Information Session**  
**June 27, 2017**



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## Who we are

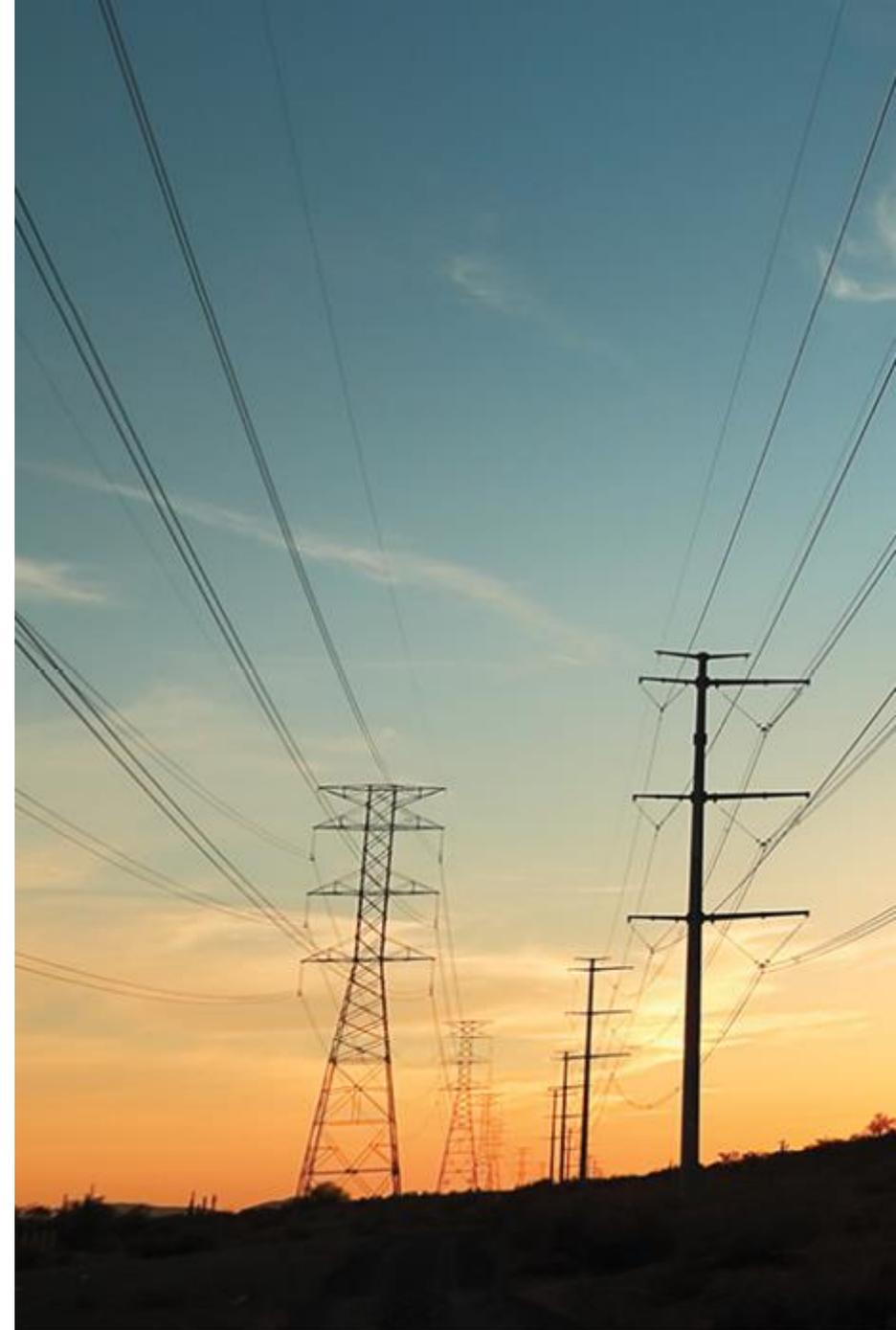
- Independent regulatory agency of the Government of British Columbia
- Operates under and administers the *Utilities Commission Act*
- Quasi-judicial organization that makes legally binding rulings
- Commissioners are appointed to the BCUC by the Lieutenant Governor in Council
- Panels of Commissioners are assigned to make evidence-based decisions on matters before the BCUC





## What we do

- Regulate energy utilities, including:
  - Setting rates
  - Regulating franchises, privileges, and concession agreements granted to public utilities





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## Our mission

*...to ensure that ratepayers receive safe, reliable, and non-discriminatory energy services at fair rates from the utilities we regulate, while also providing utilities the opportunity to earn a fair return on their capital investments.*



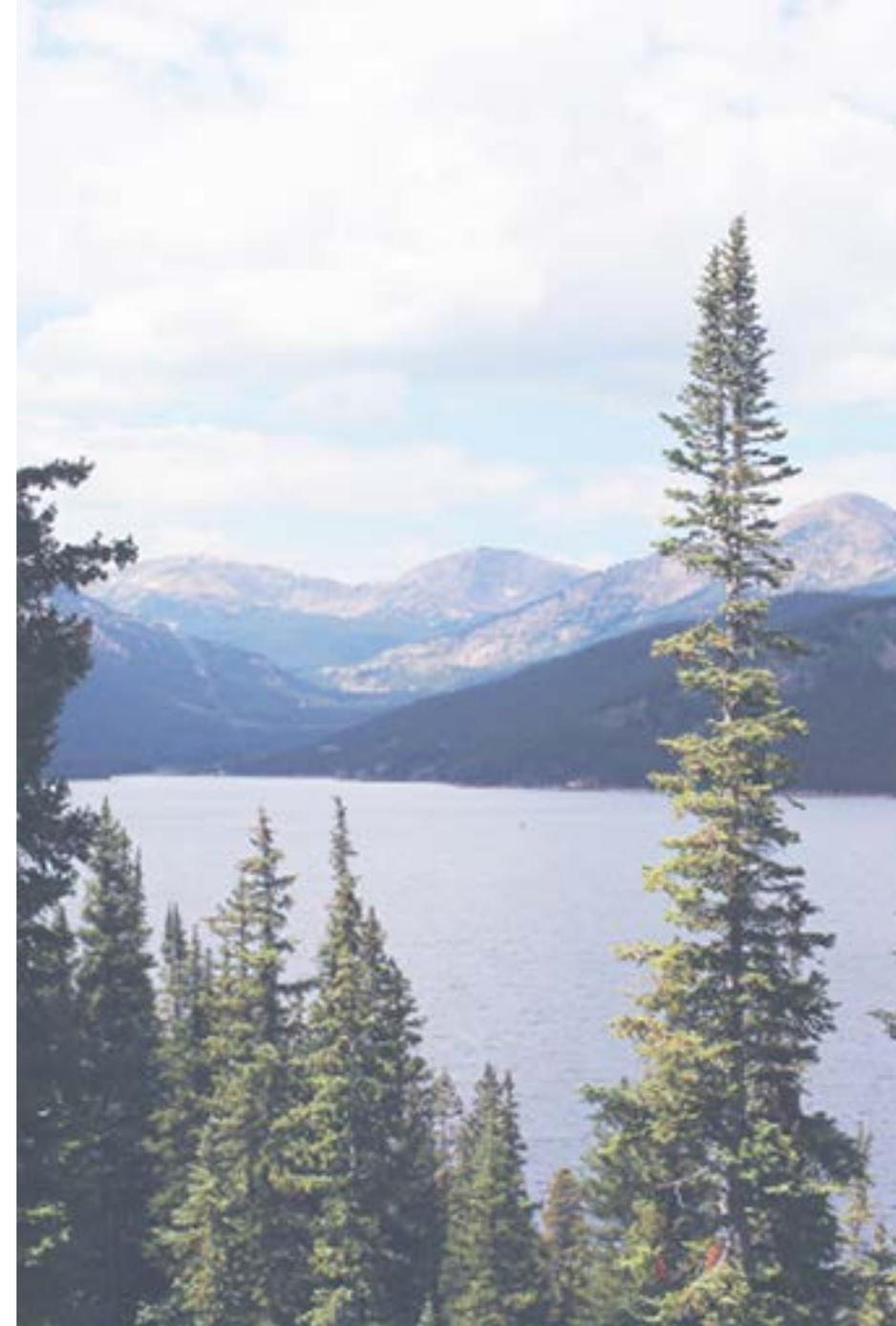


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## How to get involved

1. Become an Intervener
2. Write a Letter of Comment
3. Register as an Interested Party

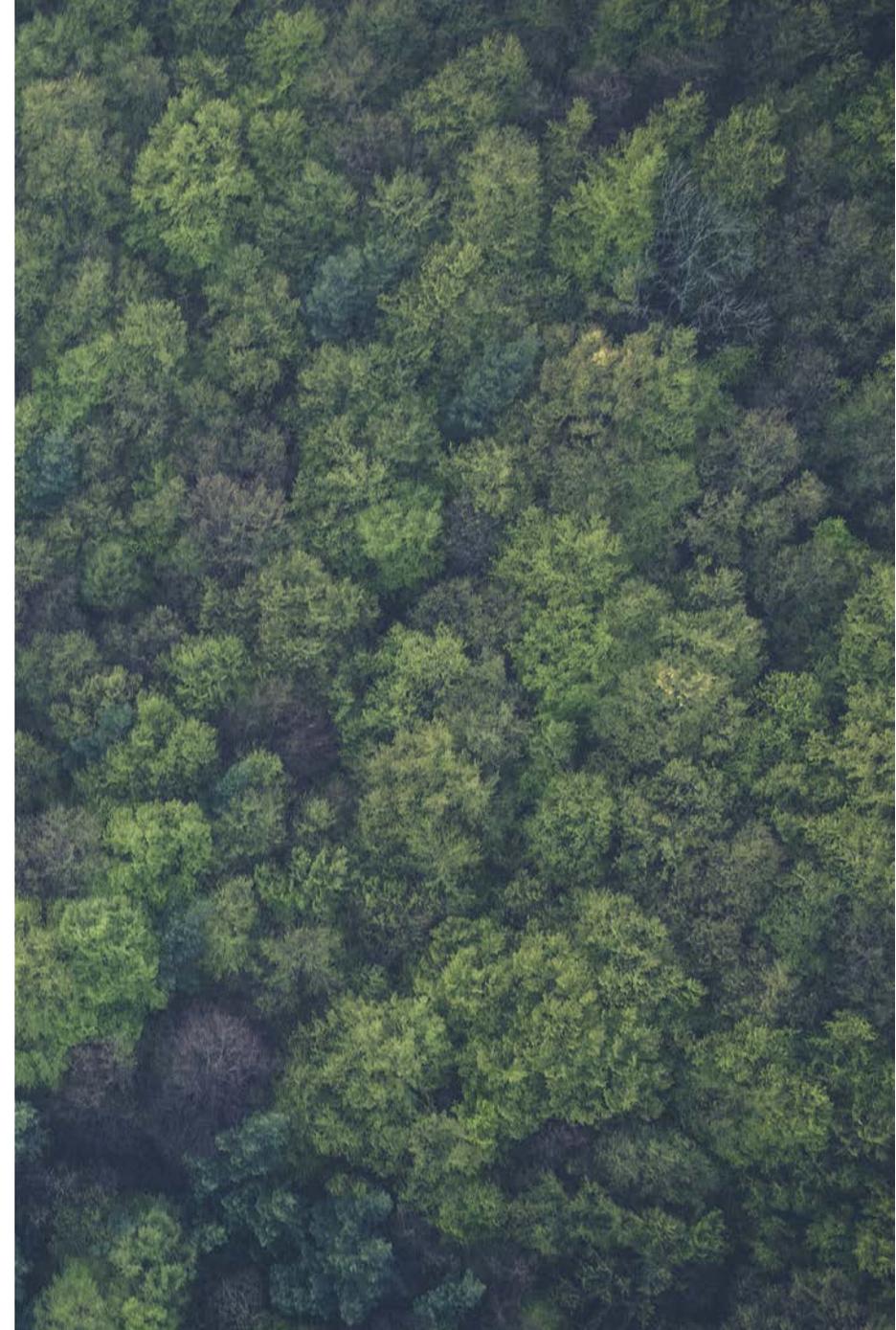
The BCUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure provide information for those who participate in matters before the BCUC.





## Our decision-making process

- Procedural fairness is paramount
- Based on evidence of proceeding
- Considers applicable legal guidance in the *Utilities Commission Act*
- BC Court of Appeals





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## More information

[bcuc.com](http://bcuc.com)

[commission.secretary@bcuc.com](mailto:commission.secretary@bcuc.com)

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